MASON'S

MONTHLY

COIN AND STAMP

COLLECTORS'

MAGAZINE.

Vol. 5. MAY, 1871. No. 5.

PUBLISHED AT $1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.

Bavis & Pennypacker. Prs., 23 S. Tenth St.

MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS' MAGAZINE.

VOL. 5. MAY, 1871. No. 5.

CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY AND ITS IMITATIONS.

Every American has more or less traditional information of the suffering occasioned by fluctuations of Continental bills of credit during the Revolutionary war. No other medium for the payment of public obligations being within the command of Congress for a long time, the most patriotic citizens, who most cheerfully furnished services and supplies for carrying on the war, were severely scourged by its depreciation and downfall. To destroy the credit of the Continental money was one of the leading objects of the British government and its immission Impressed with the idea that Congress possessed no other means for waging active warfare, they supposed that when its credit was destroyed the war must cease on the part of the rebels. Hence the immense flood of counterfeit Continental bills put in circulation by the British and tories, in every part of the continent when they had a footing.

Large as was the amount of Continental bills authorized by Congress, say about $300,000,000, it has been generally estimated by those best acquainted with the subject, that the enemy put in circulation false bills to at least three fold that amount. They were given gratis to the tories in New York in any sum they might choose to carry away with them. They were scattered broadcast from Canada over New England, wherever the British army held a post and was in communication with those disaffected to the American cause. Counterfeited Continental money was spread from that point over the whole surrounding region It was so difficult for men in the ordinary walks of life to distinguish between the true and false bills that the design of the enemy in destroying their credit was finally successful, but did not result in stopping the war as they had projected. Means were found for carrying it to a most triumphant issue; but it left the country impoverished and exhausted from its sacrificed exertions.—One of the most powerful influences in favor of the adoption of the Federal Constitution was the necessity for some provision for the Revolutionary debt, and one of the first measures of Congress was to make that provision.

By the funding Act of August 4, 1790, it was provided that, until September 30, 1791, the various descriptions of public securities then

outstanding might be funded at the Treasury or with the Commissioner of Loans appointed in each State, for which stock was to be issued. For the principal of such debt, so funded, 6 per cent. stock was issued, a part of which carried interest from 1791, and the balance, called deferred stock, carried interest from 1801. Under this act, Continental bills might be funded at $100 in bills for $1 in stock. The period for funding these bills and evidence of debt was extended by subsequent laws to June 10, 1794, when it finally expired From that date to this, a lapse of seventy-seven years, no authority has existed by law for paying or receiving Continental bills at any rate whatever. We occasionally hear of a parcel of Continental bills in the hands of the family of some old Revolutionary soldier. The first question is why were they not funded when legal authority existed during four years for that purpose in every part of the Union.

It may have been because the amount was small, but it must be recollected that at that time there were runners or agents traversing every part of the country purchasing up these securities at their full money value. There was, therefore, no difficulty in disposing of any sum, however small, if the bills were genuine. Of this, these runners or agents, whose business it was to know the false from the genuine, were fully cognizant. It was useless for them to buy the Continental bills, as they would not be received by the Loan or Treasury offices, who at that time were familiar with them. The presumption, therefore, is that the Continental bills now held by families in various parts of the country are such as could not be funded from not being genuine. The ratio of $100 for one was much higher than they had passed from hand to hand for many years previously. There could, therefore, be no objection on the score of inadequency of the offer made in the act 1790. The most probable opinion is that at that time, when the public officers could distinguish between the false and genuine bills, those now outstanding were not offered for funding or not funded if offered because they belonged to the former category.

(To be continued.)

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM.

(Continued.)

CANADA.

41. C. Obv.—Bouquet. 1 rose, 5 rose leaves, 1 shamrock and 1 head of wheat to right; 2 thistle heads with shamrock between 3 shamrocks, 1 rose leaf, 1 head and 1 blade wheat to left. In centre a rose leaf; on top 2 blades wheat parallel to each other and slightly inclined to right. Bow of ribbon to right, ends to left. Same inscription as No. 38. Rev.—Same as No. 39, but bow more flat, and on either side a sprig similar to those between the leaves. Ribbon entwined round stems of wreath. Same inscription, but more space between it and wreath. Milled edge.

42. C. Obv.—Bouquet. 1 rose, 4 rose leaves, 2 shamrocks and 1 head of wheat to right; 2 thistles, 2 thistle leaves, 3 blades and 1 head wheat, and 1 shamrock to left; in centre, large thistle leaf; on top, blade of wheat slightly bent; stems of bouquet very small. Bow small, to right; long ribbon to left. Same inscription. Rev.—Wreath as in No. 39. Bow very large triangle. Bottom of wreath touches letter "R" in Montreal. Leaves in wreath much closer than in No. 39. Same inscription. Edge plain.

43. C. Obv.—Bouquet. 1 rose, 7 rose leaves, 2 blades and 1 head wheat, to right; 2 thistles, 2 shamrocks, 3 blades and 1 head wheat, with large leaf (as in No. 39), to left; a similar leaf turns into centre of bouquet; on top, 1 head and 1 broad blade of wheat, the former inclined to left, the latter to right. 2 blades of wheat to right and left almost touch letters "U" and "T" in Agriculture, and "MM" in Commerce. Slender bow to right; 2 long ribbons to left. Same inscription. Rev.—Wreath of 18 leaves, equally divided with sprigs, etc., between each. Leaves at top of wreath almost meeting. Very small bow, with ribbon encircling ends of wreath, which nearly touch letters "N" and "E" in Montreal. The words "UN SOU" close together. Same inscription. Edge plain.

44. C. Obv.—Same as No. 43, but cracked die crossing letter "O" in Commerce, over top of bouquet, reaching two-thirds across the coin. Rev.—Very open wreath of 17 leaves, 8 to right, 9 to left. No bow, but two of the leaves start from juncture of wreath, extending upwards like letter V, close to letters "S" and "U" in sou. Letters in Un Sou close like No. 43, and small dot over "O." Ends of wreath much spread, extending from letters "N" to "E" in Montreal. Same inscription. Edge plain.

45. C. Obv.—Bouquet. 1 rose, 3 rose leaves, 2 shamrocks, 4 blades and 1 head wheat, to right; 2 thistles, 2 shamrocks, 1 head and 2 blades of wheat, 4 leaves (as in No. 39) to left, one of these being between two thistles, the other turned over into the centre; on top, 3 blades wheat, 1 straight, the others bent to right and left. Blade of wheat to left passes between letters "R" and "I" in Agriculture. Bow to right, ribbon to left, inclined downwards. Inscription the same, but more space between words Bas Canada. Rev.—Wreath of 18 leaves, with sprigs between, equally divided; small and flat bow with sprig on either side; top leaves of wreath almost touching. Word Montreal being very close to wreath. Same inscription. Edge plain.

46. C. Obv.—Same as No. 45, but slight difference in arrangement. Rev.—Same as No. 45.

47. C. Obv.—Very open bouquet. Rose, 4 rose leaves, 3 shamrocks, 1 blade wheat, to right; 2 thistles, 2 shamrocks, 2 blades and 1 head wheat, 3 leaves same as No. 39, to left; 1 leaf to centre; on top, 1 blade wheat slightly bending to left; long open bow to right: 2 ribbons curved downwards to left. "AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE: BAS-CANADA." Rev.—Same as No. 45, dot over "O" in Sou.

48. C. Obv.—Bouquet still more open than No. 47. 1 rose, 4 leaves, 4 shamrocks, 1 head wheat, to right; 2 thistles—1 straight upwards—3 shamrocks, 1 blade of wheat which touches top of upper thistle, 1 head wheat immediately above it, 3 leaves as in No. 39, 1 turns over centre on top, 3 blades wheat, curved right and left; large and open bow to left; single short ribbon to right. "* AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE * BAS-CANADA." Letters poor, no cross line on letters "A." Rev.—Same as No. 45, with letters a little more open. Edge plain.

(*To be continued.*)

SCENES IN THE LIFE OF A COIN DEALER.

BY E. M., JR.

NEW SERIES. No. 4.

"Confederate Coinage."

The following anecdote, related to our gunboat "marines" during the late civil war in this country, by a "straggler," who was picked up on the coast of South Carolina, may have been a matter of fact, but looks decidedly *fishy*. As the story has never appeared in print, we give it without endorsement:

"Ensign B., of the Ironsides, was a great lover of curiosities and, withal, quite a collector of coins, which he exhibited with great pride. Upon being assigned to duty upon the ironclad Ironsides, then ordered to Charleston, the ensign exhibited great joy, remarking to his ranking officer that he had heard the Confederate government had issued coins bearing the bust of Jeff. Davis, and the greatest wish of his existence, after performing his duty to his country, was to obtain a Confederate coin to enrich his collection. The commander smiled at the coin collector's enthusiasm, and promised to give the ensign an opportunity to carry out his wishes. Not long after the arrival of the Ironsides in the vicinity of Fort Sumter, a boat containing a Confederate soldier was picked up, who proved to be a deserter from Charleston. Here was the ensign's opportunity to ascertain the truth of the report that the Confederate authorities were making their own coins. Permission was granted by the commander for an interview between the ensign and the deserter, at which meeting the following dialogue occurred:

Ensign. "Has the Davis government issued any coins that you know of?"

Deserter. "You can bet they hev; they made the dies and struck fo' thousand in Rome, Georgia; but the coins were all sent to England 'cept one, which I found on a dead Confederate captain, at Bull Run, and gave to Jeff. Davis, in Charleston."

Ensign. "How do you know the coin was issued by the Confederacy?"

Deserter. "I showed it to a Yankee prisoner, who said it was made in Rome while he was thar, an had the head of a Confederate officer on it, and his name was Nero."

Ensign. (*Smiling.*) "What did Davis say when you gave him the coin?"

Deserter. "He said 'twas all right—Nero was on his staff at Rome, and he'd make Rome howl for issuing coins 'fo' consulting him. I asked him if it was a genuine Confederate piece, and he turned it over and showed me S. C. on the other side, and says, "What's that? Rome ain't in South Carolina," and I said, "P'raps, it was made in Georgia and struck in South Carolina," and, with that he smiled, pocketed the coin and left."

Ensign. (*Aggravated at the turn affairs had taken.*) "You are a fool, and Davis got the best of you. Instead of a Confederate coin, you lost an ancient coin, worth ten dollars."

After this interview, the ensign doubted the fact that a Confederate coin was issued, and often since the war has he related the little joke Jeff. Davis and the Union soldier perpetrated on the Confederate deserter.

LIST OF TYPES MOST COMMONLY FOUND ON GREEK AUTONOMOUS COINS.

COMPILED BY E. M., M. D.

(*Continued.*)

HELLAS.

Acarnania.—Apollo seated, extending an arm with a bow.
Ætolia.—A wild boar.
Lamia in Thessalia.—A vase surmounted with a leaf of ivy.
Larissa in Thessalia.—A horse stepping.
Phocis.—A bull's head, front view.
Opuntia in Locris—Ajax, armed with a sword and shield.
Bœotia.—A buckler.
Thespiæ in Bœotia.—A lyre, with a laurel garland.
Eretria in Eubœa.—A bull lying down.
Carystus in Eubœa.—A cock.
Histiæa in Eubœa.—A female seated on the prow of a vessel.
Chalcis in Eubœa.—Head of Apollo and his lyre.
Athenæ in Attica.—An owl and olive branch.
Eleusis in Attica.—A sow.
Megara.—The prow of a vessel. A tripod.
Corinthus.—A pegasus.
Sicyon.—A chimera. A dove, with an olive wreath.
Achaia.—Monogram and a lyre, with a wreath.
Elis.—The thunderbolt.
Arcadia.—Pan sitting on a rock.
Stymphalus in Arcadia.—Hercules using his club.
Pheneus in Arcadia.—Hermes carrying the infant Arcas.
Pylos in Messenia.—A trident.
Trœzene in Argolis.—A trident.
Epidaurus in Argolis.—A bow and quiver and a club.
Messenia.—A tripod.

Lacedæmon in Laconia.—A club and inscription in a garland.
Argos.—Fore part of a wolf. Bird on a club.

ÆGEAN ISLANDS.

Thasus.—Hercules.
Tenedos.—A double headed ax.
Mitylene in Lesbos.—A lyre.
Methymne in Lesbos.—A boar.
Chios.—A griffin. Later, an amphora or wine cup.
Samos.—A lion's head.
Cos.—A crab and club.
Tenos.—Two dolphins and a trident.
Paros.—A goat and a star.
Naxos.—Silenus, with diota and thyrsus.
Melos.—An apple.
Syros.—A goat and an ear of corn.
Andros.—A panther.
Ceos.—Fore part of a dog.
Carthæa in Ceos.—Fore part of a dog, surrounded with rays, and a bee.
Coressus in Ceos.—A star or a bee.
Ægina.—A turtle.
Rhodus.—A full-faced sun. A rose.

GAUL.

Massilia.—A lion standing in repose.

(*To be continued.*)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. R.

(*Continued.*)

The Sardonyx is a stone of the same species as the Onyx, and differs from it only in this, that its layers, instead of being black and white, are pink (or red) and white. It is found in the same localities and is used for precisely identical purposes. The name is formed from the two words, *sardius*, applied by the ancients to the Carnelian, on account of its similarity of hue to the flesh of a fish of the same name, or because found in Sardinia, and *onyx*, finger-nail—the whole signifying, we suppose, a red and white finger-nail, and so called by way of distinction from black and white streaked specimens of calcedony, which were honored with the generic name of Onyx!

The Heliotrope is a species of calcedony, and is of a dark green color, sprinkled with deep red spots, whence it is sometimes named blood stone. The name, Heliotrope, comes from two Greek words, *helios* and *trope*—*sun* and *turning*—it having, according to some, been anciently employed for observing the sun.

It occurs in obtuse masses, with translucent edges, and is of a resinous lustre. It is found in Siberia, in the Faroe Islands, in Scotland, in several countries of Asia and Africa and in some portion of the United States.

It is chiefly employed for sword and dagger hilts, for snuff boxes, and the ordinary articles of jewelry. It is much admired. Its price is measured by the number of red spots, a good and large specimen often bringing twenty dollars.

Its red spots, according to mediæval superstition, were owing to the blood of Christ being diffused through it.

The Chrysolite. The authorities are unusually at odds respecting this stone, so that it is very difficult to make out an unimpeachable description of it. The name is significant enough, "golden or gold stone." It would seem there are several varieties of this gem, the two principal of which are called the Chrysolite, par excellence, and olivine species—the former embracing all the fine, green colored and crystalized varieties—the latter are less pellucid and inferior colored species. The Chrysolite comes principally through Constantinople, from region unknown, though occasionally also from Brazil.

The olivine specimens are found in several countries in Germany, in many parts of Scotland, in Russia, Siberia, South America, and in a few of the States of our Union. It occurs chiefly in basalt, but also in some lavas, and in several species of rock. It is rarely, though occasionally crystalized. Fine large specimens are not unfrequently found, and this stone, though of indifferent color, from its taking a high polish, is sometimes sold for considerable sums. Two were vended in Paris at six hundred francs each.

The largest specimen known weighs sixteen pounds. It was found in Minas Novas, and is in possession of the Brazillian Crown.

Both these species of the Chrysolite are used for ornament, though not to any great extent.

It will be remembered that this is one of the stones in John's description of the New Jerusalem.

(*To be continued.*)

DIFFERENT ISSUES OF UNITED STATES CENTS.

BY G. A. D.

Since the establishment of the United States Mint, at Philadelphia, in 1792, there have been eight issues of the United States cents.

On the obverse of the first issue, in 1793, is the profile of a head with "Liberty" above and the date beneath. On the reverse is a circle made by a chain of thirteen links, representing the thirteeen original States, with "One Cent" within, and "United States of America" without the circle.

The second issue of the same year consisted of a profile. Also, a Liberty cap suspended on a pole, which extended obliquely across the face of the coin. "Liberty" above and the date below the head. On the reverse is a wreath and is otherwise like the first issue. This

kind of reverse was struck with but slight alterations until the sixth issue. Cents of the first and second issues weigh 208 grains.

The third issue was struck in 1796, when the weight of the cent was reduced to 168 grains, and consisted of a different kind of head, termed fillet, without the Liberty cap on the obverse.

By the fourth issue, in 1808, the head was changed, being a different kind, and facing to the right, with thirteen stars around and the date beneath it. On the obverse of the cents of the fifth issue, in 1816, was a different head from any of former date, but facing the same way as those of the fourth issue and otherwise the same.

Cents of the sixth issue, in 1856, are composed of 88 per cent. copper and 12 per cent. nickel. On the obverse is an eagle with "United States of America" above and the date beneath. On the reverse is a wreath with "One Cent" within the enclosure. This reverse, with but a slight alteration, is still struck at the mint.

By the seventh issue, in 1859, an Indian's head took the place of the eagle. By the eighth issue, in 1864, the cent was made thinner Otherwise it was like the seventh issue.

Two cent pieces, in bronze, were struck, in 1864, three cent nickel pieces in 1865 and five cent nickel pieces in 1866, all of which are coined at the present time.

AN OBITUARY NOTICE OF FRANKLIN PEALE.

Read before the American Philosophical Society by Robert Patterson.

(Continued.)

The Franklin Institute, then young and earnest, as it still is, in the advancement of knowledge, secured the services of Mr. Peale for a series of lectures on a subject adapted to his special talents. He here delivered two courses, in the winters of 1831–2 and 1832–3, on Mechanics, or rather Machines. These were fully illustrated, either by the machines themselves or diagrams, were novel in their character, and justly added to Mr. Peale's reputation. He was long an active member of the Institute, giving efficient labor on its most important committees and at the annual exhibitions, and occasionally contributing articles on mechanical subjects to its Journal.

In 1833, Mr Peale entered upon that connection with the Mint of the United States which gave a full opportunity for the display of his special abilities, and through which his reputation was firmly established. Dr. Samuel Moore, then Director, conceived the project of a mission to Europe, for the purpose of examining and reporting on such chemical, mechanical and metallurgic methods and improvements as might be deemed worthy of introduction into our Mint. He procured the needful authority and appropriations, and. having the fullest confidence in Mr Peale, selected him as the agent for this purpose. He accepted the trust, and sailed for Europe in May of the same year, being officially designated as Assistant Assayer. Mr. Peale remained abroad two years.

The subjects of special interest to the Director had been the sul-

phuric acid process of refining (or parting), and the humid essay of silver, on which full investigations were required, but Mr. Peale was not restricted in his inquiries, nor in truth was he one likely to overlook any particulars bearing directly or remotely upon the broad objects of his mission. His intelligent and patient labor mastered every detail. By partial reports during his absence, but more especially by a full and final report after his return, accompanied by plans and drawings, our Mint was placed in full possession of all that was then worthy to be known of the establishments, public and private, whose organization and methods affiliated them with our own.

The direct results of the mission were the introduction of the humid assay, some improvements in the details of the refining process, and the labor saving method of duplicating working dies for coinage.

The indirect results were, perhaps, equally important.. For the thoughts and labors of a man of genius in mechanics (as Mr. Peale was) could not be concentrated on the details of Mint process without planning many valuable improvements.

(*To be continued.*)

THE SECRETS OF THE TREASURY VAULT.

BY OLIVIA.

(*Continued.*)

Package No. 6 contained counterfeit State bank notes and legal tenders sent as specimens by J. E. D. Cousins, Chief of Police of St. Louis, Mo.

Package No. 7 contained Confederate bonds held subject to the order of the Secretary of War. Total amount, $12,050.

Package No. 8 contained the sad relics left by a defaulting Treasury clerk in his desk. The man's name was E. French, and he was assistant disbursing clerk in the Treasury Extension. After he had absconded, his keys, papers and money were safely lodged in the vault. The money consisted of $50 in gold, $2 10 in silver, and one cent nickel. This package was dated September 24, 1859.

Package No. 9 was an immense bundle of valuables, no less than the substantial inheritance of the Smithsonian Institution. These riches consisted of bonds of the State of Arkansas, valued at $538,000. Several days were occupied in the careful examination of this national property.

Package No. 10 was a modest looking package, and contained $2000, and was left for safe keeping by an old Secretary of War.

Package No. 11 contained samples of United States demand notes deposited by the Treasurer of the United States.

Package No. 12 contained 1 counterfeit plate, back of a ten dollar note, deposited by Solicitor of the Treasury, in July, 1864.

Package No. 13 was an envelope, and contained a check drawn by A. A. Cronchite, A. Q. M. of United States Army, on Assistant Treasurer United States, St. Louis. Amount, $375. Date, December 2, 1863. Deposited by Fourth Auditor.

Package No. 14 contained $350, being notes that were stolen from Lieutenant James Braunaugh in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, and forwarded to the Treasury for payment. Deposited by Treasurer of the United States, October 29, 1866.

Package No. 15 contained $14,500 in Virginia States bond, deposited by Secretary of the Treasury as captured property from a person formerly acting as an officer of the late so-called Confederacy. Dated February 16, 1867.

Package No. 16 contained $50,000 registered bonds deposited as collateral security by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Package No. 17 contained 89 counterfeit ten dollar notes, manufactured in Sheffield, England, and left on special deposit by W. A. Shannon, August 22, 1863, by order of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Package No. 18 contained $61,000 Texas indemnity stock, 5 per cent., deposited by Secretary of the Treasury, through W. H. Andrews, for safe keeping, subject to his order.

Package No. 19, an envelope, which contained bonds issued on account of Pacific Railroad by State of Missouri. Deposited by Secretary of the Treasury, January 4, 1868.

Package No. 20 contained bonds issued on account of Blue Ridge Railroad, by State of South Carolina. Deposited by Secretary of the Treasury, January 6, 1868.

Package No. 21 contained an envelope, deposited by Second Auditor, May 6, 1868, and consisted of a Monroe County (New York) certificate of $300. The above bond to be used as a voucher in the settlement of Captain J. D. O'Connell's accounts.

Package No. 22 coutained counterfeit Treasury and bank notes passed by and found in the possession of John B. Henderson, and cancelled by William B. Randolph September 29, 1838. Deposited by the Treasurer, May 26, 1868.

Package No. 23, one envelope, in which were found counterfeit legal tenders, fractional currency and bank notes. Deposited by H. Johnson. The original deposit consisted of $268 in gold and silver, which was forwarded to the Mint in Philadelphia to ascertain its value. Amount of counterfeit currency, $614 01.

Package No. 24, deposited August 6, 1870, by the Secretary of the Treasury, in trust for the Alaska Commercial Company, containing five-twenty bonds. Whole amount, $55,000.

(To be continued.)

REDEMPTION OF COPPER COINS.

A large quantity of the old U. S. cents have been received at the Mint, in this city, from various parts of the country. Among twenty thousand cents but one uncirculated coin was found, and that an 1837. Nothing rare or fine in such a quantity is a very convincing argument that numismatology is spreading, and the people of this country are well informed in regard to the value of rare coins. We shall report from time to time the "finds," as the vast accumulation is examined.

COIN SALES.

A small coin and curiosity sale, the property of A. C. Kline, Philadelphia, was held at Bangs. Merwin & Co.'s sales rooms, New York, on April 8.

A three days coin sale came off at Bangs, Merwin & Co.'s auction house, April 3, 4 and 5, comprising a very interesting lot of ancient and English coins, and a nearly complete series of Scotch pieces. The sale was well attended upon the first day, but the second and third days' attendance was very limited, and most of the gold and silver pieces sold very low—in a number of instances below par value. There is one thing to admire and commend in the catalogue of this sale, *i. e.*, the terms used to describe the coins. The author of the catalogue (unknown) confined his condition of coins to a very few terms, such as "uncirculated," "very fine," "fine;" "good," "poor" and "fair." How much better, plainer and, in every way, preferable are these conditions to the ambignous terms and confusing explanations used by some coin dealers, who prefer to say *something new*, when describing coins, and mystify the bidder by a multiplicity of descriptions, among which it would be difficult to find twins.

It has been quite a mystery to know whose collection was offered at auction on the 3d ult., and an equally mystifying puzzle to know who catalogued the unknown cabinet. Judging by the Canada pieces in the catalogue, we should look to the New Dominion for a paternal owner for the unknown numismatic offspring. With few exceptions, the collection was notably over-described, and to this fact is due the falling off in interest and attendance after the first night's sale.

OFF FOR EUROPE.

The editor of this journal will leave, for a coin hunting tour in Europe, in a few days after the issue of this number of the magazine. Ample arrangements have been made for the prompt filling of orders during his absence. Upon his return, a circular will be issued, containing a list of coins, autographs and whatever of interest he can gather in the Old World. Any of our patrons wishing to obtain certain coins (ancient or modern), books or relics, can address, E. Mason, Jr., care of Lincoln & Son, No. 462 New Oxford street, London, England. A commission of ten per cent. will be charged on all purchases.

PRINTED PRICED LISTS OF COIN SALES.

By reference to the cover, it will be noticed that the New England Numismatic Society have in view the publication of a supplementary sheet, containing the numbers and prices of lots in coin sale catalogues, to be bound in with the catalogues. This is certainly an improvement over the old plan of pricing catalogues, and has long been in vogue in Europe. We predict a large demand for the price lists. In fact, we have already received orders for the price list of the Packer sale of 27th February.

THE CAUFFMAN COIN SALE.

A fine cabinet of coins, mostly American, will be offered at auction by Bangs, Merwin & Co., New York, the 3d inst—sale to continue two days. Mr. Cauffman, the owner, was one of our early customers, and, as an instance of the advance in the value of coins, we would state that, in the year 1860, he purchased of us an 1839 proof U. S. silver dollar for seventeen dollars, now worth forty dollars. We opine that this collection will net the owner a profit of fifty per cent. on the first cost, as nearly the whole collection was formed when coins were at least fifty per cent. lower than at present. Bidders who receive catalogues too late to bid by mail will please telegraph us to New York, care of auctioneers.

THE REDEMPTION OF TOKENS.

The Secretary of the U. S. Treasury has amended the regulations for the redemption of the token coins, so that each denomination and kind must be assorted by the sender before shipment to the Treasury. There are three kinds of one cent pieces, viz.: copper cents, issued prior to 1857; nickel copper cents, issued from 1857 to 1864; and bronze cents, issued from 1867 to 1871. These coins, as well as the bronze two cent pieces and the copper-nickel three and five cent pieces, must be put up separately, and forwarded in packages in the aggregate of twenty dollars or in multiples of twenty dollars.

NUMISMATICS ABROAD.

It is our purpose to commence in the next issue a series of letters concerning the state of the coin trade in England, and to add such matters of interest associated with coin and stamp collecting as we may be able to pick up by the wayside while making a rapid tour among the coin dealers of England and its dependencies. Should the June number be delayed beyond the 5th proximo, we shall probably issue a double number for July, and hope our readers and subscribers will take note and not be disappointed if the June number should not reach them promptly.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Hoosick Falls, N. Y., March 16, 1871.

Mason & Co.: Gentlemen—I wish to direct your attention to a new plan of pricing catalogues of coin or other sales. I received, a few weeks ago, a catalogue from Germany, which is a pattern for any catalogue I have seen yet. The price arrangement is a sheet by itself, and was printed after the auction sale had taken place. By that means, any catalogue can be priced, after the sale, without using the means of sending forth and back the catalogue, and saving a great deal of trouble and expense. The expense would be small—you could furnish price lists of catalogues of former sales as well as of present or future sales, for from ten to fifty cents, according to the number of lots, and make a good thing of it. Joseph Hausler.

[The plan of pricing catalogues by a supplementary sheet has been long in vogue not only in Germany, but in other countries. The Boston Numismatic Society has decided to issue these priced sheets for all future sale catalogues. Ed.]

TRAVERSE CITY, MICH., March 24, 1871.

MASON & CO.: GENTS—Will you please answer the following questions through your magazine: Is there any work describing every coin ever issued so far as known? If so, what is it and price? If not (and I do not think there is), I should think some one who understands his business might make a fine thing of it. It would be expensive, of course, but would certainly find an extended sale.

Very truly, T. T. BATES.

[There is no work published containing a description and history of every coin issued. Among the coin manuals devoted to American coins, Dickeson's stands alone, although Prime has issued a very interesting coin manual, embracing foreign as well as American coins. Experience has proved that the publication of numismatic works in America is a profitless and thankless undertaking. Ed.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. T., NEW YORK.—If your friend had a catalogue of the coin sale of May 3 and 4, at the time you name, he received it one week earlier than it was received by us. The catalogues we received, to the number of seventy-five, were distributed promptly as far as that small number would go among our numerous bidders and patrons.

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.—In another portion of this number of the magazine, the allusion is made to the expected departure of the editor to Europe. He will leave New York, April 29, by "City of London," of the Inman line of steamers, to be absent six weeks. Arrangements have been perfected to fill all orders promptly, during the editor's absence, and his copartner will attend all coin sales and execute orders from bidders.

A. K. Y., ST. LOUIS.—Nero was born A. D. 37, adopted by Claudius and created Cæsar A. D. 50. He committed suicide upon receiving intelligence that his soldiers had proclaimed Galba emperor, A. D. 68. Silver denarii of Nero are valued at $1 to $2, according to condition and designs. First brass, worth from 50 cents to $2 50. Second brass, from 25 cents to $1. Third brass, from 25 cents to 50 cents.

P. P. JR., CHARLESTON.—Send us a quantity of the bonds and stamps you allude to. We will pay $2 each for one thousand dollar bills, 50 cents for five hundred dollar bills, 10 cents for one hundred dollar bills and for smaller denominations in proportion.

S. H. W. L., RICHMOND.—We have a five cent postage stamp, unused, with head of Davis, black, on white paper, genuine issue from original dies, undoubtedly unique, same as small blue issue made in England for the confederacy.

S. M., New Haven.—In June, we shall have a fine assortment of proof English tokens. A choice line of Greek and Roman silver and copper coins on hand now; also, Colonial coins and some choice cents.

Public Library, Boston.—Magazine mailed from February. We regret we did not receive notice to continue the subscription earlier in the year.

W. H. J., Cleveland.—Sales of coins for the present season close with Cauffman sale, May 3 and 4. There may be a few small sales during the present month and June, but the harvest is over and coin sales of importance will not occur before September.

L. K. R., New Orleans.—It is reported that coins have been struck in France since the defeat and overthrow of Louis Napoleon. Mr. Mason, while absent in Europe, will investigate the matter, and report in the June number.

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

NEW ISSUES.

Alsace and Lorraine.—Two new values have been recently issued for these provinces, viz:

5 centimes, green. 25 centimes, dark brown.

The type is the same as that of the earlier issued values, but the lettering is thicker. Our Carlsruhe correspondent states that a new set of stamps for united Germany will be issued January, 1872, and no doubt the provisional Alsace will remain in use until that time. In the occupied departments, or at least in the department of the Somme, by special order "from a very high quarter," the Prussians impose a surcharge of 20 centimes on all letters posted within their jurisdiction. This charge is indicated on the envelope by a hand-stamped figure 2, and the inscription TAXE ALLEMANDE, in black. We have seen several letters from Amiens and Abbeville bearing this imprint.

France.—The transition from occupied to unoccupied France is a natural one. The provisional Bordeaux series continues in use, and numerous varieties are in existence, resulting from the rough printing. The 20 centimes is found in deep blue, ultramarine, and dull blue; the 10 c. in all shades, from red-brown to a light brownish yellow; the 80 c. is known in deep carmine and dull rose. The 40 c. is rarely used, and but few copies have come under our notice. In Paris, the use of the republic stamp has almost ceased for the moment: nearly all the letters which arrive in the departments are franked with the old imperial labels, of which the stock must now be nearly exhausted. Probably the old head of Liberty will long remain current, as the government is hardly in a position to go to the unnecessary expense of making fresh dies, and the republic itself appears likely to last.

Canada.—Our Brussels contemporary has apparently been deceived

by the adroit swindler who succeeded in misleading the editor of *The Philatelist.* He chronicles, as a surprising novelty, a small sized 3 cents *dark brown.* We have had one in our possession for some months, which was originally red, and owed its transformation to chemical agency. Would M. Moens like to see it?

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The four pence mauve has been "translated" into a provisional, and has its value reduced by one-fourth. Below the effigy, in a straight line, is the inscription 3-PENCE, printed at first in red, but now in black. This is a new value, and no doubt will be represented by a new type when the stock of the four pence is exhausted.

FINLAND.—*Helsingfors.*—The design of the "10 penni" supersedes the blue and stone stamp which has been in use for the last three years, and is printed in two colors, in a very peculiar manner; the upper half, from the right upper to left lower corner, is red, and the lower half green, and thus it results that the Swedish inscriptions, HELSINGFORS STADSPOST, have their color, and the Finnish inscriptions, KAUPUNGIN POSTI HELSINGISSA, have theirs. The stamp is printed on white paper, and provided with serpentine perforations.

BAVARIA.—The Brussels journal notes the emission of several varieties of field-post envelopes.

SWITZERLAND.—The same paper gives a representation of a stamp which has been issued by the Swiss authorities for the use of the soldiers of Bourbaki's army interned in Switzerland, and frees their letters through the post. This stamp is printed in black on rose and on red paper.

MOZAMBIQUE.—M. Moens, in his catalogue, chronicles an emission of six values for this Portuguese colony, but gives no description.

WURTEMBURG.—A correspondent informs us of the emission of two post-cards for this state, one with an embossed 3 kr., and the other with an embossed 1 kr. stamp, in their usual colors.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Another correspondent sends us an extract from a letter received from a friend at the Cape, explaining the cause of the surcharge of the six pence lilac. It appears this value was much used as a revenue stamp and but little for postal purposes. When the government forbad its being affixed to documents, its employment almost ceased, and to utilise the stock remaining on hand, the value was changed from six pence to four pence.

SPAIN.—The 25 milesimas has just been issued in a new color—bright mauve.—*Stamp Collectors' Magazine.*

PHILATELIC FOSSILS.

Fossils always retard the progress of science and cling with indefatigable tenacity to everything they touch, injuring and repressing what, without their influence, would advance and confer blessings upon mankind. The good ship Philately was launched at the port of America, several years since, under the most favorable auspices, and favoring winds were fast wafting her to the haven of Success, when

suddenly her hull became barnacled over with *brown* fossils, checking her headway and detracting from her beauty, greatly to the consternation of the passengers and crew. We call upon the fraternity of philatelists, in the city of New York, to use their exertions to knock the *brown* barnacles from our good ship and free the craft from fossils, that there may be plain sailing hereafter.

UNITED STATES PRIVATE PROPRIETARY STAMPS.

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THIS MAGAZINE BY J. P. ANSHUTZ.

(*Continued.*)

B. A. Fahnestock's Vermifuge, Pittsburgh, oblong, 1 cent, red.

S. W. Fowle & Son, Boston, rect., 4 cents, black.

G. Farr & Co., Matches, Boston, rect., 1 cent, black.

F. E. C. Matches, 1 cent, carmine.

Wm. Gates, Matches, Frankfort, rect., 1 cent, black; oblong, 3 cents, black; oblong, 6 cents, black.

Greenleaf & Co., Matches, Milwaukee, rect., 1 cent, green; oblong, 3 cents, red; oblong, 5 cents, yellow.

T. Gorman & Bro., Matches, Westville, Conn., rect., 1 cent, green; 1 cent, black.

C. Goodall & Son, Playing Cards, London, Eng., rect., 5 cents, black.

Hall's Hair Renewer, Nashua, N. H., oblong, 4 cents, black.

Hall & Buckel, New York, rect., 1 cent, green; 3 cents, black.

Samuel Hart & Co., Philadelphia and New York, oblong, 5 cents, black.

Helmbold's Genuine Preparations, rect., 2 cents, blue; 3 cents, green; 4 cents and 6 cents, black.

John F. Henry, U. S. Medicine, New York, rect., 1 cent, black; 2 cents, mauve; 2 cents, blue.

John F. Henry, U. S. Medicine, New York, rect., 4 cents, mauve; 4 cents, vermillion.

Herrick's Pills and Plasters, rect., 1 cent, vermillion.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment, New York, oblong, 1 cent, blue.

Hostetter & Smith, Pittsburg, oblong, 4 cents, black; 6 cents, black.

Hutchings & Hillyer, New York, Female Pills, oblong, 4 cents, green.

T. J. Husband, Philadelphia, oblong, 2 cents, mauve; 2 cents, vermillion.

E. T. Hazleton, Warren, Pa., oblong, 4 cents, black.

B. & H. D. Howard, Telegraph Matches, New York, rect., 1 cent, blue; 1 cent, vermillion.

Henning & Bouhack, Matches, Hudson City, N. J., rect., 1 cent, blue.

C. E. Hull & Co., New York, rect., 1 cent, black.

Iron City Percussion Matches, rect., 1 cent, black.

(*To be continued.*)

COINS FOR SALE.

English Silver Crowns, prior to 1700; good condition,	$1 50
English Half Crowns; old dates,	75
French Medals; bronze; proof,	75
Greek Silver Coins,	75
" Brass "	50
Roman Silver Coins,	50
" Brass "	15
California Gold Dollar, octagon or round,	1 75
" Half Dollar, "	75
" Quarter Dollar, octagon or round,	50
United States Mint Sets—Five, Three, Two and One Cent Pieces; 1871; proofs,	25
United States Mint Sets—One Dollar to One Cent, inclusive; 1871; proofs,	4 50
100 Store Cards, all different, fine,	3 00
100 Rebellion Tokens, all different, fine,	3 00
Silver Proof Sets, 1859 to 1870, each,	5 50

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

PHOTOGRAPHIC CURIOSITIES.

The London Times in miniature—a photographic copy of the great newspaper—every word and letter distinct and in exact form and appearance of the original—4 inches by 3 inches. Every lover of the curious should have a copy. Price, 25 cents. Also, Harper's Weekly—photographic copy. in perfect miniature (size of a visiting card) and folded in exact appearance of the original—illustrations remarkably perfect. Price, 25 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

1793 CENTS.

We have received a small lot of poor 1793 cents, dates not visible, which we will sell from 25 cents to 50 cents, each, according to condition; also, a few extra chain or link '93's, at $10, each; extra wreath '93's, $5, each; good wreath '93's, $2 50, $3 and $3 50, each.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

PRINTED PRICE LISTS.

THE NEW ENGLAND NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY intends to publish, from time to time, printed Price Lists of all the important coin sales that take place in the United States. These lists will be printed in a size uniform with the catalogue to which they belong, and must prove a valuable addition to the book. Should the list of prices not fill an even number of pages, the remainder will be filled with interesting numismatic information.

Prices.—For a catalogue of four pages, 25 cents; for a catalogue of eight pages, 50 cents.

These lists may be obtained of Edward Cogan, No. 95 William Street, New York; Mason & Co., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia; Henry Cook, No. 74 Friend Street, Boston, and of Charles Chaplin, Librarian of the New England Numismatic and Archæological Society, No. 14 Spring Street, Boston.

Should sufficient encouragement be given, Price Lists of former sales will be published. Collectors desiring them will please communicate with the Librarian of the Society, or as above.